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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Confirmation No.: 2036

Sreedhar Mukkamalla, et al.

Group Art Unit No.: 2177

Serial No.: 09/871,476

Examiner: Miranda Le

Filed: May 30, 2001

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RESPONSE

This is in response to the Final Office Action mailed April 14, 2004, the shortened statutory period for which runs until July 14, 2004.

REMARKS

No claims have been amended, cancelled or added. Hence, Claims 1 – 24 are pending in the Application.

Summary of Rejections

Claims 1 – 7, 13 – 19 are rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,970,502, herein Salkewicz.

Claims 2, 4, 9 – 11, 14, 16 and 21 – 23 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Salkewicz, in view of US Patent No. 6,032,158, herein Mukhopadhyay.